

REMARKS

The Specification

One of the paragraphs of the specification has been amended for purposes of clarity, and the Abstract has been amended for consistency with the present amendments to the claims. No new matter is introduced by any of the amendments to the specification.

The Claims

Claims 1, 8, 11-12, 15 and 21-24 have been amended. Claims 16-19 have been canceled. The remaining claims have been retained in their original form.

The Claim Amendments

Each of the independent claims and certain dependent claims of the present application have been amended, as set forth above, to overcome all of the claim objections and rejections in the outstanding Office Action. More particularly, the present amendments correct all of the informalities and the lack of antecedent basis in the claims, as were raised by the Examiner at pages 2-4 of the Office Action. In addition, and for the reasons explained below, Applicants submit that the present amendments overcome all of the substantive claim rejections as set forth at pages 4-24 of the Office Action. For the record, Applicants note that all of the amendments to the claims find support in the specification, for example, at page 20, lines 5-8; page 22, lines 1-18; page 23, lines 11-15; page 25, line 12 to page 26, line 7; page 30, lines 6-11; and page 39, line 10 to page 43, line 12.

The Claim Rejections

In the outstanding office action the Examiner rejected the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or 103 over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,787 to Hiscock alone (as the primary reference) or in combination with one or more other (secondary) references. As explained below, however, the amended claims are clearly and patentably distinguishable from Hiscock.

Hiscock discloses a system or method for synchronizing the database stored in a personal digital assistant (PDA) with the database stored in a host server, such as a personal computer (PC). The Hiscock invention is intended to assist mobile users in synchronizing the PDA database with the host server database by eliminating the need for placing the PDA in a special “cradle” that is physically connected to the host server, or otherwise having the user manually enter changes in the PDA database. (See column 1, lines 40-63.) To this end, the PDA 12 in Hiscock includes a wireless transceiver for communicating via a wireless link 22 with a wireless “hot-sync” server 10 that is connected to the host server 14 via a local area network (LAN) 16. (See FIG. 1 and columns 3-4.) Upon receiving a hot-sync request from the PDA 12, the hot-sync server 10 establishes a hot-sync channel 24, 26 between the PDA 12 and the host system 14. The hot-sync channel 24, 26 is then used for exchanging synchronizing data packets between the PDA 12 and the host system 14.

In rejecting the pending claims of the present application over Hiscock, the Examiner compared the wireless server and wireless client in the rejected claims to the hot-sync server 10 and PDA 12 of Hiscock, respectively. (See Office Action at page 5.) However, the claim limitations relating to the wireless server and wireless client have now been amended to clearly and patentably distinguish the wireless server and wireless client of the present invention from the system in Hiscock.

First, with regard to the wireless server of the present invention, each of the independent claims has now been amended to recite that the wireless server is “capable of executing any one of a plurality of software applications and generating from such execution a plurality of data packets for transmission in the network,” and, furthermore, that the wireless server “receives a data packet from the wireless client, extracts data from the received data packet, and associates the extracted data with one of the software applications.” Neither the hot-sync server 10 nor the host system 14 of Hiscock meets those limitations. More specifically, there is no teaching or suggestion in Hiscock that the hot-sync server 10 is executing software applications, generating transmit data

packets from such execution, and associating a received data packet with a particular software application. Rather, the hot-sync server 10 of Hiscock is used merely to mediate the exchange of sync packets (i.e., to forward sync packets) between the PDA 12 and the host system 14. (See, e.g., column 7, lines 21-27.) On the other hand, while Hiscock teaches that the host system 14 “may be a personal computer, or a network server” (column 3, lines 9-12), it does not teach or suggest using the host system 14 as a wireless server for executing software applications, generating transmit data packets from such execution, and associating a received data packet with a particular software application, all as recited in the amended claims.

Second, with regard to the wireless client of the present invention, each of the independent claims has now been amended to recite that the wireless client is “configured to remotely access the software applications executed by the wireless server, and to process the data packets transmitted from the wireless server.” Although Hiscock teaches the (indirect) exchange of data between the PDA 12 and the host system 14 through the hot-sync server 10, there is no teaching or suggestion in Hiscock that the PDA 12 can access software applications (as opposed to data) residing in or executed by either the hot-sync server 10 or the host system 14 (each of which, in any event, is distinguishable from the claimed wireless server as described above), or that the PDA 12 can process data packets generated from the execution of any such applications. Accordingly, the claimed wireless client is clearly and patentably distinguishable from the PDA 12 of Hiscock.

As demonstrated above, Hiscock does not anticipate or render obvious any of the amended claims. None of the other references applied by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action, alone or in combination with one another, cures the aforementioned deficiencies of Hiscock when applied to those amended claims, or teaches or suggests the combination of limitations recited in any of the amended independent claims. Therefore, the amended claims are deemed to overcome all of the outstanding claim rejections.

Related Cases

Concurrently with this reply, Applicants are submitting an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) setting forth all of the references cited in related applications Serial Nos. 09/775,324 and 09/775,327. The claims pending in the '324 application are related to a wireless router and a wireless routing method, whereas the claims in the '327 application are related to a wireless client and, therefore, are considered to be more closely related to the subject matter of the claims of this application as presently amended. In the interest of expediting prosecution of this case, Applicants hereby offer the following remarks in regard to the Ditzik reference (U.S. 2001/0030850), the primary reference used to reject the claims in the '327 application. (It should be noted in this connection that the rejected claims in the '327 application did not contain the limitations added by the present amendments to the independent claims in this application.)

Ditzik discloses a multi-function computer which can be used as a laptop (notebook) or desktop personal computer (PC), or as a personal digital assistant (PDA). Although Ditzik discloses that the computer can be equipped with a wireless transceiver for wireless communication with an external network (see paragraphs [0034], [0038] and [0053]), Ditzik does not disclose, teach or suggest using the computer itself as a wireless server for executing a plurality of software applications, generating a plurality of transmit data packets and associating data contained in a received data packet with one of the software applications, nor using a separate wireless client that would access the software applications executed by, and process the data packets generated from, the wireless server, as recited in the amended claims of the present application.

Not only is the Ditzik computer distinguishable from the claimed wireless server, as demonstrated above, it is also equally distinguishable from the claimed wireless client. Specifically, while Ditzik makes a general mention of the computer being used for "network computing" (see excerpt from paragraph [0048] below), it is clear from the Ditzik specification that the computer is intended to be a fully-functional, multi-purpose computer that would be executing a variety of PC and PDA applications. This is, for example, reflected in the following passages from Ditzik:

“The unit can be used for general purpose computing, network computing, pen input computing, PCS/Cellular, data/video conferencing, on-line network computing and data collaboration applications....A multiplicity of personal computing applications may be embodied on its [sic] computer,” (See Ditzik, paragraph [0048].)

“The user has the option of selecting several operating modes, which may include a conventional computing mode 78, a wireless data communications mode 80, and a wireless voice communications mode 82. A conventional computing mode includes typical PC computing or PDA computing.” (See Ditzik, paragraph [0058].)

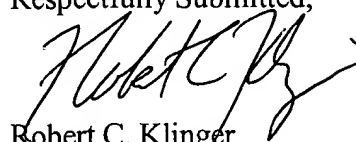
“Many types of computer application programs may be executed by the computer system. For example, one or more telephony programs 84, office/personal productivity programs 86, electronic mail or voice mail 88, and Internet/Web browsing programs 90 may be used. Other PDA, PC or workstation programs may also be executed.” (See Ditzik, paragraph [0059].)

In contrast, the claimed wireless client is specifically recited to be “configured to remotely access the software applications executed by the wireless server, and to process the data packets transmitted from the wireless server.” In other words, the claimed wireless client (as the word “client” implies) does not execute the software applications that are being executed on the server, but merely processes the data packets resulting from the execution of those applications by the server.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable action to that end is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,



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